

## ***Amendments to the Claims***

The following listing of claims shall replace all prior listings and versions of claims in this application.

### ***Listing of Claims:***

1. (Currently Amended) A pledget for use with a surgical staple comprising a plurality of prongs, said pledget comprising:

a member configured to be retained adjacent to a wound site by said staple, said member comprising a base region configured to be at least partially disposed between the plurality of prongs of said staple, said member further comprising a plurality of peripheral notches configured to at least partially receive said plurality of prongs therein, said notches further being configured to engage said plurality of prongs to retain said member to said staple.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Withdrawn) The pledget according to claim 1 comprising a plurality of peripherally extending tabs configured to be received between said plurality of prongs.

4. (Withdrawn) The pledget according to claim 1 comprising a plurality of holes in said member, each adapted for receiving one of said plurality of prongs.

5. (Original) The pledget according to claim 1 wherein said member comprises a woven or non-woven fabric material.

6. (Original) The pledget according to claim 5 wherein said fabric material comprises polyester material.

7. (Original) The pledget according to claim 1 wherein said member is polymer sheet.

8. (Original) The pledget according to claim 1 wherein said member is bioabsorbable.

9. (Original) The pledget according to claim 1 further comprising a physiologically active agent.

10. (Original) The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent is adapted to be released over a predetermined time interval.

11. (Original) The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent comprises a coating applied to said member.

12. (Original) The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said member is impregnated with said physiologically active agent.

13. (Original) The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said member is formed from said physiologically active agent.

14. (Original) The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent comprises an anti-microbial agent.

15. (Original) The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent comprises an antiseptic agent.

16. (Original) The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent inhibits intraluminal clotting.

17. (Original) The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent promotes extraluminal clotting.

Response to Restriction Requirement

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**Page 4 of 6**

18-47 (Cancelled)